

SUBURBAN LIBRARY COOPERATIVE
44750 Delco Blvd
Sterling Heights, Michigan 48313
Board Meeting
February 28, 2008

- I. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Suburban Library Cooperative by Ronald Black, Chairperson.

Trustees present: Diane Barr (Armada), Barbara Brown (Clinton-Macomb), Frank Sosnowski (Harper Woods), Dick Runels (MacDonald), Mark Wollenweber (St. Clair Shores), Ron Black (Shelby), Lynne Gregory (Troy), Frank Pasternak (Warren)

Absent: Denise Giordano (Eastpointe)

Staff present: Arthur Woodford (Suburban Library Cooperative)
Darlene Paquette (Suburban Library Cooperative)

- II. Approval of the Agenda.

Add Agenda Item VI. E. Approve 2006/2007 Audit.

Motion for Mark Wollenweber to act as Interim Secretary for the February 28, 2008 meeting.

Runels moved to approve the amended Agenda, supported by Wollenweber. Motion carried.

- III. Approval of the January 31, 2008 Minutes.

Motion made by Gregory to approve the January 31, 2008 Minutes, supported by Brown. Motion carried.

- IV. Member Library concerns.

Lynne Gregory reported that the Troy Public Library Board will be drafting an official comment to post on the state librarians blog regarding the new model for State Aid to Public Libraries. Have any other library boards submitted their views as a group and posted them on Nancy Robertson's Blog?

Ronald Black reported that Judi Chambers, Director of Shelby Township Library is retiring June 1st.

Frank Pasternak asked, "What do libraries do about patrons that have large overdue fines?" Patrons are blocked from borrowing books once \$5.00 in fines is accumulated. For collections, most libraries use a collection agency for fines over a certain amount and Woodford will send Pasternak the name of the collection agency that most libraries use.

Mark Wollenweber asked, "Were any of our libraries formally school libraries?" Yes, Mt. Clemens. When the Grosse Pointe Library District was formed, the library was separated from the school system and the employees were no longer school employees, but were paid as if they were teachers. Some librarians are still represented by the Michigan Education Association (MEA). Negotiations over the years have taken care of salary issues, but the MEA has filed suit against the amendment of the District Library agreement to have Board members nominated from the community.

V. Approval of the Bills.

Wollenweber moved to approve payment of the bills, supported by Pasternak. Motion carried.

VI. Action Items

A. Future of Cooperatives

Woodford attended the Library of Michigan Board meeting on Friday, February 22nd. The Department of History, Arts and Libraries is having their first budget hearing on March 5th and will submit a budget of \$10 million for state aid, which is the same as FY 2007-2008. The Michigan Library Association is working on increasing the budget by \$2 million, the level for FY 2006-2007.

Jim Seidl, Director of Woodlands Cooperative, gave a presentation expressing concern of the new state aid model proposal.

In the past, SLC has prepared an Annual Benefit to Member Libraries Report and Woodford will update this report to have at the Trustee Dinner.

After the Trustee Association Meeting on March 19th, the SLC Board recommended drafting a letter expressing opposition to the proposed state aid model for posting on the state librarian's blog.

B. Urban Cooperation Act

Our attorney, Ann Seurnyck has sent out a "conflict of interest" letter to ROG & FRA. Both libraries have used the Swift, Foster, Collins & Smith PC firm and both have agreed to wave any conflict of interest concern. Ann Seurnyck will continue to work on revising our draft agreement.

C. Trustee Association

Larry Neal, Director of Clinton-Macomb Public Library will attend the Trustee Association Dinner/Meeting on March 19th and has agreed to help answer questions regarding the proposed model for state aid.

D. Tote Bags for SLC's 30th Anniversary

The tote bags need to go to Council for approval. Tabled for the March Board Meeting.

E. Approve 2006/2007 Audit

Runels made the motion to approve the 2006/2007 audit, supported by Barr. Motion carried.

VII. Information Items

A. Automation Report

Three staff members attended the MeL Users Day Workshop in February.
Amy Shaughnessy is our new Systems Librarian and started working on February 18th.

B. Budget Report

Motion made by Runels to receive and file the Budget Report, seconded by Pasternak. Motion carried.

C. Investment

Motion made by Runels to receive and file the Investment Report, seconded by Pasternak. Motion carried.

VIII. Public Participation.

No public participation.

IX. Next meeting date

March 27, 2008, 7:00 p.m. at the St. Clair Shores Public Library.

X. Adjournment

Pasternak moved to adjourn at 8:15 p.m., supported by Runels. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Mark Wollenweber,
Interim Secretary